

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present Preliminary Amendment a new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is submitted.

Further, claims 1-20 are canceled without prejudice and new claims 21-40 are presented for examination. New claims 21-40 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including the original claims, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter. Further, new claims 21-40 are not believed to be more narrow in scope in any aspect in comparison with canceled claims 1-20.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

BDL:SNS/dt

I:\ATTY\SNS\286760US-PR.DOC



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423